

NEW YORK HERALD

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT,
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despatches must be addressed New York
HERALD.Letters and packages should be properly
sealed.Rejected communications will not be re-
turned.

Volume XXXVII.....No. 78

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

NIRLO'S GARDEN, Broadway, between Prince and
Houston st.—LA BELLE SAVOIE.WOOD'S MUSEUM, Broadway, corner 11th st.—Perform-
ances after 8 o'clock and evening—WORKINGMEN OF NEW YORK.ST. JAMES THEATRE, Twenty-eighth street and Broad-
way—THE LOST CHIEF.BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery—BUFFALO BILL—JACK
ROBINSON AND HIS MONKEY.FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE, Twenty-fourth street—
THE FIRST OF MARCH.OLYMPIC THEATRE, Broadway—THE BALLET FAN-
TOMES OF HENRY DEMPSEY.LINA EDWIN'S THEATRE, 720 Broadway—WITNESS
OF NEW YORK.FOOTHILL THEATRE, Twenty-third st., corner Sixth av.—
THE LOST CHIEF.ACADEMY OF MUSIC, Fourteenth street—ITALIAN
OPERA—FAUST.WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway and 12th street—
THE VETERAN.GRAND OPERA HOUSE, corner of 5th av. and 23d st.—
ALLA BOUKI.MRS. F. R. CONWAY'S BROOKLYN THEATRE—
FREE OF DAY.PARK THEATRE, opposite City Hall, Brooklyn—
BUFFALO BILL.THEATRE COMIQUE, 64 Broadway—COX TO VOCAL-
ISM—NIRLO'S GARDEN.UNION SQUARE THEATRE, Fourteenth st. and Broad-
way—NEGRO ACTS—BURLESQUE, BALLET, &c.TONGY PASTORS OPERA HOUSE, No. 201 Bowery—
NIRLO'S GARDEN.BRYANT'S NEW OPERA HOUSE, 23d st., between 5th
and 6th av.—BRYANT'S MINSTRELS.THIRTY-FOURTH STREET THEATRE, near Third ave.—
VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT.SAN FRANCISCO MINSTREL HALL, 635 Broadway—
THE SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS.STEINWAY HALL, Fourteenth street—GRAND CON-
CERT.PATILION, No. 63 Broadway, near Fourth st.—GRAND
CONCERT.NEW YORK CIRCUS, Fourteenth street—JONES IN
THE RING, ACROBAT, &c.NEW YORK MUSEUM OF ANATOMY, 615 Broadway—
SCIENCE AND ART.DR. KAHN'S ANATOMICAL MUSEUM, 745 Broadway—
SCIENCE AND ART.

TRIPLE SHEET.

New York, Monday, March 18, 1872.

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MAZZINI'S MEMORIAL IN ROME.—The Italian
people paid honor to the memory of Mazzini
by the display of an immense national provision
in Rome yesterday. The workmen's
societies were out in force, with banners and
music. A bust of the deceased patriot was
borne through the streets and deposited
in the Capitol with imposing ceremonies. The
city remained perfectly quiet during the day—
a fact which, coupled with our news from Ire-
land, goes far to prove that the European
masses have come to appreciate the value of
"moral force" and are still more respected
by the governments in consequence. Maz-
zini's bust rests in fitting position in the Cap-
itol of Rome, near to where Cesar "thrice re-
fused a kingly crown."SECRETARY FISH'S REPLY TO EARL GRAN-
VILLE.—The American note in reply to Earl
Granville's despatch on the Alabama claims
case was read in a British Cabinet council and
debated by the Queen's Ministers on Saturday.
A London journal, issued yesterday, an-
nounced the fact, accompanying the news
with the statement that the contents of the
American missive produced "a favorable im-
pression," and were "regarded as furnishing
an opening for further negotiations on the
basis of the arrangements provided by the
Treaty of Washington." As it is generally
conceded that this London Sunday newspaper
is moved to a considerable extent by Minis-
terial inspiration in its utterances on subjects
of great international interest, we may per-
haps accept its report as correct. This report
is pleasing in so far as it presents Mr. John
Bull in an amiable mood officially. We can
hardly approve, however, of the prospect of
delay which is opened by the use of the words
"further negotiations," for, as the whole world
is already convinced, John is a terrible fellow
at procrastination under the guise of "further
negotiations," and, as every English school-
boy knows from his copybook, "procrastina-
tion is the thief of time."American and Manifest Destiny—Our Duty
Towards Mexico—General Grant's Won-
derful Opportunity.

A great nation has duties as well as re-
sponsibilities. When Providence raises up a
people like the United States to become in less
than a century one of the great Powers of the
world, He certainly means that we shall do
something more than plant corn and build
railways. It was Napoleon who was always
fond of dwelling upon the "mission" of
France, while Pitt and Canning made many
proud speeches upon the "mission" of En-
gland. France construed the Napoleonic dic-
tum to mean that she should make and un-
make kingdoms on the Rhine and the Baltic,
and establish Bourbons and Bonapartes upon
alien thrones. England translated the policy
of Pitt to be that all flags should be furled
before her flag, when they met upon the high
seas. We put an end to that legend, as far as
America was concerned, in 1814, while the
ambition of France, in going beyond her real
duties as a liberal and progressive Continental
Power, ended in defeat. On the other hand,
the influence of France in Italy and Spain,
in making war upon superstition, and the
influence of England in liberalizing India,
have added largely to the happiness of the
world. They have shown their appreciation
of their responsibilities as nations.

We have a tradition in our politics against
intervention in the affairs of foreign States.
It comes to us from Washington, and should
be remembered with the reverence that we
pay to every precept that fell from that il-
lustrous statesman. We have a tradition that
no European power should be permitted to
interfere in the affairs of any nation on this
Continent. We owe this to John Quincy
Adams, and it does honor to his courage and
sagacity. Apparently antagonistic, these
principles are harmonious. We have no busi-
ness with the affairs of foreign Powers. The
time may come, in the progress of
Oriental regeneration—separated from the
Eastern nations as we are by a sea which
washes thousands of miles of our Western
coast—when we may be compelled to exercise
our influence over Japan and China. Ties of
commerce, emigration and, perhaps, of citizen-
ship, may make this necessary, and we may
have to depart from the Washington maxim.
But for the present, and for another generation,
most likely, the wars of Europe or Asia are
of no concern to us. The teachings of Mr.
Adams admit of no criticism. The American
republic is the dominant Power upon the
American Continent. Compact, united, homo-
geneous—with more population than England
or France, and as much as Germany—with
one language, one code and one government,
we have a responsibility upon this Continent
which becomes a duty. In our extravagant
moments we speak of it as "manifest destiny."
We prefer to regard it as "manifest duty."

Since we came into confederated existence
as a nation war, annexation and purchase
have added largely to our domain. We have
received Florida from the Spaniard, Louisiana
from the Frenchman, Alaska from the Rus-
sian, Texas and California from the Mexican.
The acquisition of these Territories has been
a source of happiness to the people and a con-
tribution to the progress of mankind. We
have made California a Commonwealth as
rich as Tyre or Carthage, and in twenty years
a city has grown up in an old and neglected
dependency of Mexico which bids fair to
rival Babylon. Texas and Louisiana
are rich and proud Commonwealths.
Florida is far different from what
she would have been as a Spanish
Porto Rico or English Jamaica, while humid
and ice-bound Alaska has been developed into
one of the most important commercial stations
in the world. Wherever the Yankee has gone
he has carried life and growth. The world
is better, civilization is riper because of
the American's work in these Territories.
Nor has the republic been weakened by the
addition to her domain. As we have advanced
in the path of political aggrandizement and
reform science has kept pace with us, steam
and electricity have become the servants of
the Union, and the republic holds the two
oceans more closely in her arms than when,
in the early days, she held Virginia and Mas-
sachusetts. Taking a religious view of the
past, we may truly say that Providence has
blessed our adventures in union and annex-
ation, by enabling us as a people to come
closer and closer.

The duty we fulfilled to those Territories has
become a graver responsibility in the case of
Mexico. President Grant has an opportunity
greater than what came to Jefferson when
Napoleon offered to sell Louisiana—greater
than what came to Polk when he annexed
Texas and California. Here is a country
rich in all natural resources. Its climate
is fertile beyond description, its scenery
exceeds the most romantic sections of
our own country; it is full of agricultural, in-
dustrial and commercial capabilities. Yet,
by reason of evil government, apathy, slug-
gishness and bigotry, it is no more advanced
than it was under Montezuma. Buckle has
shown in his sketch of European civilization
that while England and Russia, Germany and
France, have kept pace with the progress of
the age, Spain has stood still—a hopeless,
dormant, sluggish mass—cherishing the tra-
ditions and superstitions of the Middle Ages;
ignorant, and proud of her ignorance, as
though it were a phase of patriotic virtue.
What we see in Spain, as compared with
Europe, we see in Mexico, as compared with
the United States. The Spanish character
controls the Spanish colony. The priest
and the bandit contend for the mastery of
the country. A republic in name, Mexico
has simply been a recognized and intermittent
anarchy. To-day Iuribide; to-morrow Santa
Anna; the next day Maximilian; again, some
stolid, listless Jaurez, who holds his seat only
by the sword and sits in stolid indifference,
helpless to command or even obey, while
society is in a state of volcanic eruption, law
is disregarded, the national credit is bank-
rupt, property insecure, and capital and emi-
gration are debarrd from its shores. There
is no healthy life in the country—nothing but
political corruption and social chaos.

If Mexico were simply her own enemy
we might limit our argument and speak only
of the good that annexation would do to a people
who have shown no capacity for continued
self-government; but there is also a selfish
view. Mexico is, geographically speaking, a
part of the United States. A "row river

divides the two republics. Any foreign
Power can make the Rio Grande a base of
hostile operations. Any foreign fleet may
cruise in the Gulf of Mexico and prey
upon our commerce, and find refuge in
Mexican ports. This gulf is an American
lake. We must hold it against the world.
Every port on its shores must be under
American guns. We saw during the rebellion
how Mexico was made a supply depot for the
rebels. We saw how the fleets of Spain,
France and England were able in our time
of care and helplessness to enter the Gulf and
make war upon Mexico. We know well that
if these nations, or any large maritime nation,
had recognized the independence of the South,
Mexico would have gone far towards enabling
them to vindicate that act. Therefore in the
maintenance of our national integrity we are
compelled to look seriously at the dangers we
undergo with this turbulent, restless Mexico
upon our borders. The time may come when
another Maximilian may land his armies at
Vera Cruz, and such an event would bring war.

In the interest of peace to the United States
we urge General Grant to declare a proto-
torate over Mexico. In the interest of hu-
manity we make the same appeal. The suc-
cesses of Jaurez are illusive. They bring the
country no nearer pacification. Jaurez sits
upon a trembling seat to-day; to-morrow he
may be shot in the ditch of Queretaro, where
poor Maximilian was put to death one day, with
some Porfirio Diaz to reign in his stead until
another adventurer is strong enough to shoot him.
Government in Mexico is simply assassination
by law, and universal brigandage tempered by
universal suffrage. The country has every-
thing to invite the honest and industrious man.
Our duty is to rescue it from the influ-
ences that have thrown it into anarchy and
shame. Nor in doing so do we invade any
vested right or wound the pride and patriotism
of the honest Mexican people. They want
a good government. Their own flag does
not command obedience at home or respect
abroad. The American flag would mean a
step from anarchy and insanity to life and
health and progress. The President knows
Mexico well, and is an intrepid statesman, as
he showed in St. Domingo. Here is an enter-
prise the splendor of which will throw St.
Domingo, or even the acquirement of Cuba,
into the shade. In the end it means the con-
trol of the West Indies. Manifest destiny
points across the Rio Grande. A protectorate
over Mexico means the freedom of Cuba and
the annexation of St. Domingo. No such
opportunity has been afforded to a President
since Jefferson acquired Louisiana. Let
President Grant show himself worthy of his
fame and create another claim to the confi-
dence of the people by establishing a pro-
tectorate over Mexico, insuring to her people
peace and freedom, and ending the scandalous
condition of affairs in that richly famed but
most unfortunate country.

St. Patrick's Day—Texts, Banners and
Toasts.

The patron Saint of all good Hibernians will
have had a double-barrelled observance this
year. The religious tributes to the memory
of the Apostle of Ireland were characterized
all over the city yesterday by a fervor and
devotion which will rejoice the soul of St.
Patrick in Heaven, as he observes that the
faith which he patiently and laboriously sowed
in the Emerald Island, over fourteen centuries
ago, is still bearing fruit of godliness, and
that the *insula sanctorum* is worthy even yet
of its name. St. Patrick's Cathedral was the
scene of a solemn high mass, in which Arch-
bishop McCloskey was the celebrant, and
the sermon whereto was preached by the
gifted friar of the Order
of St. Dominic, Father Tom Burke. It will
be found from the HERALD report to be an
able and learned panegyric on the Saint and
a definition of his teachings and their wonder-
ful effect, and will be read with interest
by every son of the old sod in the city before
falling into line for the great procession of to-
day. They cannot do better, and we prophesy
that thirty thousand Hibernian heads will be
carried the higher for it and a like number of
beaver hats assume a more jaunty air. Every
indication promises that we shall have an or-
derly, quiet and respectable display, imposing
in numbers, and with some additional pic-
turesque features thrown in which were sadly
lacking in the parades of former years.
Then, when the out-door glory of the day
is over, when the marshals have
stowed away their regalia of green and gold
and looked carefully to the comfort of their
eighteen-inch ostrich feathers, when the
prancing steeds are returned to their owners
and the brawny rank and file have retired
with their regalia from public life for another
twelvemonth, the third phase of the honors to
the Saint will begin. The religious portion
was plausibly attended to yesterday, the
parade will occupy to-day, and the mystic
process of "drowning the shamrock" will
hold good for the evening and on to the verge
of to-morrow. A spirit of joviality may be
certainly expected to be extant, and a great
thing in this Saint's favor is his happy adapt-
ability to the mirthful necessities of our Celtic
fellow citizens. As he furnished a theme for
the preacher yesterday and a very venerable
subject for innumerable banners to-day, so,
in the fun of the evening, he will be a first
rate subject for a toast; nay, it is more than
probable that some fugitive members of the
ancient order will bring him irreverently
down to state lyrically that he was a gentle-
man and respectably connected, with wholly
unfounded and unwarranted references to his
relations with the Gallabers, Bradys,
O'Shaughnessys and O'Grady's.

Leaving the holy man's memory to his en-
thusiastic disciples we will say a word or two
earnestly to them as patriotic citizens of the
United States. It is to draw a lesson from
to-day's procession, undisturbed in its pro-
gress, protected if it needs protection, re-
viewed by the Mayor and Common Council,
and allowed to take possession of the principal
streets of a busy city for hours. The lesson
is the application of the golden rule to other
processions—to respect the privilege which they
enjoy to-day themselves. As they would
resent interference during their march let
them in future avoid even the semblance
of interference with others, no matter what
their opinions. With this settled in their
minds we say to our hardy and happy Hiber-
nian fellow citizens fall in, march, break up,
hoist your patron Saint and be happy.

The Sermons Yesterday.

The religious event of yesterday was the
exchange of pulpits between Mr. Beecher
and Mr. Hepworth. The congregation of
the Church of the Disciples in Steinway
Hall were thrilled and spellbound with
the matchless eloquence of the pastor of
Plymouth church, Brooklyn, and we dare
say the Plymouth congregation were de-
lighted with Mr. Hepworth. It was a mutual
recognition of Christian greatness, and was,
no doubt, as great a treat to the preachers
as to the people. Greater numbers left Stein-
way Hall, we are told, unable to enter than
those who were fortunate enough to gain ad-
mittance. Plymouth church was also crowded
as usual. The subjects chosen by those two
eloquent divines were peculiarly suitable to
the occasion and to the present season of the
Church, when the great work of the Lord
Jesus Christ is brought vividly to our
remembrance. Mr. Beecher, in his own
inimitable style, presented in striking contrast
the pale glory of intellectual power, of riches,
of material greatness and might when com-
pared with the knowledge of God and His
righteousness. The race, Mr. Beecher said,
had always sought to know God, and every
man had his own conception of Him. Men
say that they know God, and plume them-
selves on their knowledge, but the wisest
only know just enough to touch the hem of
His garment, said the great preacher. How
almost utterly impossible it is for any human
soul to understand and know God was
illustrated by Mr. Beecher by our imperfect
knowledge even of great men of our own or a
former age. He uttered a fearful truth as
well as a witicism when he remarked that
for rich men to glory in their riches would
upset New York in twenty-four hours.
Equally appropriate was Mr. Hepworth's dis-
course on the inscription on the cross, in
which was comprehended all that Jesus said
and did before He ascended Calvary to die.
The whole sentence, said Mr. Hepworth, ex-
pressed concrete contempt; but the words are
true, for Christ is not only the King of the
Jews, but to-day He is King of the whole
world; and our hope of heaven lies in the
fact that Jesus went up to God and left the
door open for us.

Dr. Hastings, in the Forty-second street
Presbyterian church, endeavored to set forth
the worth and preclusiveness of man. Dr.
Furness, of Philadelphia, considered the pro-
posed religious amendment to the constitution,
which he ridiculed, as if there could be no re-
cognition of the Supreme Being except by
name, and as if it were not one thing to cry
"Lord, Lord," and another to do His will.
Christianity at the first, as evidenced by the
Catacombs of Rome, was not, he said, like our
present forms of it, a creed or an observance,
but a life—not an artificial routine of formal-
ties, but a sphere for all common sympathies
and deeds. The Rev. Mr. Park encouraged
the New England Congregational church to
move forward as the Israelites did across the
Red Sea, while their Egyptian slaveholders pur-
sued. The importance of prompt and decided
action was the lesson deduced and which was
illustrated by historic events. The dreadful
crime which men commit who make light of
God's invitations was the subject matter of
Mr. Taylor's discourse in the Broadway Taber-
nacle. The mistaken notions which people
get about religion were disclaimed as having
any foundation whatever either in the Gospel
or in Christian experience.

The now celebrated Catholic preacher, Rev.
Thomas Burke, did a good service to his
countrymen and to his Church when he dis-
cussed, as he did yesterday, on St. Patrick,
about whom, perhaps, a greater amount of
ignorance prevails than any other historic per-
sonage of equal importance, not only among
the opponents of Catholicism, but among its
adherents. The Rev. Father Damen, whose
revival meetings have had such wonderful
success in these parts, preached with great
acceptance and power last evening to a large
congregation in the Church of the Holy Inno-
cents. He took up the popular objections to
Catholicism, and showed their groundlessness.
The objection that Catholics are not allowed
to read the Bible was particularly noticed,
and he called attention to the fact
that Pope Pius VI. exhorted the faithful
to read God's Holy Word for edification and
sanctification. It is the bulwark of the
Church, its sword and shield, and by it
heretics are convinced of their errors and the
truth of Catholic doctrines is proved. Father
Fransoli, in St. Peter's church, Brooklyn,
was very sensitively affected because "that
pure and holy mother the Catholic Church
is vilified by the press, by pamphlet, at public
meetings, in official assemblages and by in-
dividuals," and he wished to know how he
might stop this stoning and turn aside these
darts of the enemy. No Catholic, he declared,
should be on the criminal list. "The true
children of the Church must reach a state of
perfection, not only in faith but in acts, which
will challenge respect and admiration. That
should be the aim of every one of every church
and creed and name."

The Rev. Mr. Hill presented the lessons
taught to the Jewish mind by the transfigu-
ration of Christ to his Methodist congregation
in South Third street (E. D.), Brooklyn, yester-
day. Their prejudices were to be loosened
concerning the necessity of their obedience to
the ceremonies and requirements of the Mosaic
law and the fulfillment of that law in and by
Christ to which Moses and Elias were wit-
nesses. It was also designed to teach that
the road to exaltation and glory runs through
the valley of humiliation. As yesterday's
solemn season the sermons yesterday were
largely suggestive of heart thoughts and
searchings after the highest and purest good,
and we can commend them to our readers
to-day.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY ON THE "OLD SOD."—
Ireland observed the national anniversary of
St. Patrick's Day in peace and good order yester-
day. There were no disturbances reported
in Dublin from the provinces to the moment
when the cable news telegram which we publish
to-day was forwarded to the HERALD. Drogheda,
a town of which Cromwell said "it hath
pleased the Lord to deliver Drogheda to my
sword," demonstrated in mass meeting for
"home rule" and a petition to Queen Victoria
for amnesty to the Fenian convicts, although
it is difficult to see how the two ideas can be
reconciled, unless they constitute, really,
one, the first being subservient to and adju-
vant for the promotion of the last.

General Grant and the Opposition Ele-
ments—The Political Movement of the
Day.

New Hampshire has cleared away a heap of
rubbish from the Presidential course. In the
verdict of her late election the facts are estab-
lished that General Grant is the candidate of
the republicans for the succession against all
comers, and that neither republican bolters
nor temperance radicals nor labor reformers
nor all these elements combined against Grant
have in any degree shaken the integrity of the
party of the administration. All the State
Conventions so far held for the election of
delegates to Philadelphia tell the same story.
For example, the "Hunters of Kentucky," in
their recent Convention, thus defined their po-
sition:—"We pledge ourselves to support the
nominees of the Convention which is to
assemble on the 5th day of June in Phila-
delphia; and, believing that President Grant
has met his pledges given to the country in the
administration of his high office, he deserves
our thanks and support, and our delegates are
instructed to vote for his re-nomination." And
the men of Wisconsin affirm that "this Con-
vention most heartily recommends that the de-
legates here elected to the Republican National
Convention cast their united and entire vote
for the nomination of U. S. Grant for President
of the United States;" and they do this because
they hold "that the continued confidence of the
people of the country is due to the administra-
tion of General Grant;" and they refer spec-
ifically to the leading acts and measures of his
domestic and foreign policy in support of this
declaration.

From the unanimity of all these State con-
ventions we can hardly doubt that General
Grant at the Philadelphia National Council
will be re-nominated on the first ballot, and by
acclamation. But the Vice Presidency remains
an open question, and among the rivals of Mr.
Coffax for this nomination are James F. Wil-
son, of Iowa; Henry Wilson, of Massachusetts;
General Harlan, of Kentucky, and Mr. Demas-
son, of Ohio, and a dozen others may appear
upon the first ballot, in the way of complimen-
tary notices. It is probable, however, that
Mr. Coffax will carry off the prize, for the
Convention will be cautious in avoiding a repe-
tition of the great mistake made with the
renomination of Lincoln, in dropping Vice
President Hamlin as his associate and taking up
the intractable Andy Johnson.

Meantime New Hampshire appears to have
settled the question for the democracy, as
between the active and passive policy, in
favor of the Missouri coalition movement. It
is admitted that upon the fair trial made in
New Hampshire, between the republicans and
the democrats, Grant and anti-Grant, the
result confirms the State elections of 1871, in
showing that the democratic party does not
carry guns enough to capture Appomattox
Court House. Consequently the democracy
must look about for reinforcements, and so it
seems to be generally understood among the
party leaders and oracles that "the party is to
play second fiddle to the Cincinnati Liberal
Republican Convention." On this passive
programme Judge Davis at present seems to
be the coming man. We find among our
exchanges, however, the following as the
views of an old line democrat on this subject.
He says that if Grant is re-nominated
the democrats will keep very quiet (the passive
policy), in order to allow the independent re-
publicans to meet for the purpose of presenting
candidates and forming the nucleus of a great
movement, and that then the democrats will
come out, hold a convention and confirm the
Cincinnati nominations, if they happen to
embrace Davis or Trumbull or some other
satisfactory man with a satisfactory associate
on the ticket. Upon one point this old line
democrat is somewhat roughly explicit. He
says that Chase, of course, is out of the
question, because he is broken down phys-
ically and his mind is failing rapidly.

This may do for an old line democrat, but it
is not the opinion of the "democratic republi-
cans" of West Virginia. Their movement of
last summer at Parkersburg in favor of Chief
Justice Chase has been followed up with the
pronouncements of principles, which we pub-
lished recently, embracing negro suffrage,
universal amnesty, national sovereignty, State
rights and free trade, and a call for a National
Convention at Parkersburg on the 18th of
April for the nomination, as we understand
it, of the Chief Justice as the democratic
republican candidate for the opposition
Holy Alliance. We fear, nevertheless, that
this Parkersburg move will be a failure,
because of the prevailing opinion that Mr.
Chase is out of the question. He cannot real-
ize the fact, however, that as a Presidential
availability he belongs to the past. And what
a lesson to all our hopeful, scheming and
intriguing aspirants for the Presidency is
here suggested! The White House belongs
to that class of glowing and magnificent castles
in Spain which few men reach, except in their
dreams. We think it was Fremont who, in one
of his famous exploring expeditions, in crossing a
desert in Southern Nevada, saw before him
looming up in the hazy atmosphere a beautiful
counterfeit of the White House, embowered in
trees and with a charming lake at its front of
shining water. But on approaching it the de-
lightful picture faded away into the naked
rocks and blistering sands of the "howling wil-
derness." And to how many aspiring men
has this mirage appeared in other places than
Nevada, only after their following it for years,
to disappoint them at last? Who can tell the
number? The long list that occurs to us, from
Aaron Burr downward to this day, may be
compared with the bones of travellers and
camels that mark the route over the African
desert to Timbuctoo. And what does it all
amount to? "Vanity of vanities," saith the
preacher, "all is vanity."

But what of this Cincinnati Convention?
Called by a little meeting of anti-Grant re-
publicans in Missouri, it is assuming the
character and the proportions of a democratic
flank movement upon the administration.
Delegates to this Convention have been ap-
pointed from Missouri, Kansas, Arkansas,
North Carolina and other States. General
Cox, late Secretary of the Interior, they say,
will head a fine body of liberal republicans
from Ohio, and Mr. Greeley has promised a
powerful delegation from New York. It has
been reported, too, as news of the highest
moment, that Mr. Sumner has not only made
up his mind to go to Cincinnati, but has
patriotically consented to preside over the Con-
vention. But considering the fragile health

of Mr. Sumner, this report may be dismissed
as a newspaper canard. Nor is the formal ad-
hesion of this disappointed Senator necessary
now to fix the character of this Convention.
It is agreed upon between the high con-
tracting parties that the liberal republicans are
to prepare a new departure for the democracy,
and upon a ticket and platform which will fuse
democrats, labor reformers and the loose
elements of the country generally under the
flag of the liberal republicans in the common
cause against Grant. The scheme embraces
simply the disbanding of the democratic party
and the merging of the democrats in a new
party organization.

Can this difficult scheme be made a suc-
cess? Hardly, under the best of probabili-
ties, in the short interval to November next.
General Grant has a party at his back and a
personal and official popularity in his front
which will compare with the advantages of
Jackson in 1832; for in that campaign Jack-
son had to fight the national republicans
under Clay, the anti-Masons under Wirt and
the Southern nullifiers under Calhoun. It
was supposed, too, before, and believed after,
the election, that if all these opposition ele-
ments could have been fused upon a common
ticket Jackson might have been defeated. But
the divisions among these opposition parties
were too wide to be closed up, and this will
be the first impediment to fusion at Cin-
cinnati. In 1836, had the opposition ele-
ments united upon a common ticket, they
might have defeated Van Buren; for in the
popular vote of the Union he had only some
twenty-five thousand majority, notwithstanding
the distractions of the opposition upon
four different candidates—Harrison, White,
Mangum and Webster. From the divisions of
the opposition Polk, Taylor, Buchanan and
Lincoln (first time) were each elected with a
majority more or less of the popular votes
against them. Now, with a popular majority
for Grant in 1868 of over three hundred thou-
sand to overcome in 1872, the very first neces-
sity to the opposition elements is fusion, and
fusion is the work to be undertaken at Cin-
cinnati. The movement is important, not as
affecting the issue of the impending contest,
but as likely to determine the question
whether the democratic party in this cam-
paign shall disappear like the old federal
party in 1820 or be extinguished in battle like
the old whig party in 1852.

"Sons of Thunder."

Some stars are made to shine and some to
burn. In political life, in statesmanship, in
war, in religion—everywhere, and in all the
different phases which go to make up
human society, some men burn and some
merely shine. Some are stars of first mag-
nitude and some only of eighth or between
these magnitudes. Such were Napoleon, Wel-
lington and Washington—stars that burned in
military life; and such also are Grant, Von
Moltke and others still living. Such were
Jefferson, Calhoun, Thad. Stevens, Palmerston
and others in political life, and such are Blar-
marck, Thiers, Disraeli, Ben Butler, Charles
Sumner and a few others beside them still
shining among us. The Church has given
great men—"sons of thunder"—bright and
shining lights to the world, all along the
pathway of its history. It has had its St.
Patrick, its Huss and Wyckliffe, its Luther
and Melancthon, its Wesley and White-
field, its Knox and Edwards, and a
host of others too numerous to men-
tion. But how sadly deficient does
the present age seem to be of great men
in Church and State, in religion and politics,
when compared with the past! True, the
circumstances are greatly changed since the
former times, and, as greatness is a compara-
tive quality, it was much easier for a man to
be great one, two or five hundred years ago
than it is to-day. The masses then were so
small intellectually that a man who rose above
them was so much greater as they were
smaller than the masses of the present day.
Moderate ability, to stand above the average
crowd in our time, would have been supreme
nobleness and breadth of intellect and soul a
century ago; and yet the heroes of the past
were great even in comparison with the great-
est men of our